

REMARKS

Claims 61-63 are pending and rejected. All other claims have been rejected to expedite prosecution of this application. The cancelled claims may be recaptured at a later date in a continuation application. Their subject matter has not been disclaimed.

Claims 55 and 58 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over co-pending patent application serial number 09/886,432. These claims have been cancelled. Thus this rejection has been mooted.

Claims 61-63 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Davis ('843). This rejection is traversed.

Applicant has considered the Examiner's Attachment A and his description thereof in the Final Office Action. In that Attachment A, the Examiner has chosen to equate the left end of each finger 9 (see the Examiner's marked-up Figure 3) where the contacts are bent with applicant's claimed "planar walls." However, such a comparison does not support an anticipation of the claims; especially claim 61.

Concerning claim 61, if the Examiner is going to call these parts of the fingers 9 the "planar walls", then they *each* do not have terminal contacts extending from an end thereof, i.e., two sets of terminal contacts. This is because Davis' only has one true planar plug wall. The claim structure provides various benefits. For example, from a performance standpoint, this structure is much more conducive to the high current flows needed in a power connector such as that shown in the instant invention.

Furthermore, those bends in the area of 17 result in Davis' beams not extending "substantially continuously from a second edge of each said two planar walls." This results in the Davis connector being much more likely to face temperature rises due to current crowding in the area of the various bends around 17. This is highly undesirable in high current through put throughput applications.

All claims being allowable, an early indication as such by the Examiner is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

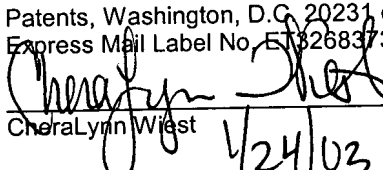


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1/24/03
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Marked Up Claims

61. (Amended) A plug connector for power applications, comprising:

an insulative plug housing;

at least one conductive plug contact within said insulative housing; said plug contact comprising a pair of spaced-apart planar plug walls, said two spaced-apart planar plug walls each having:

(a) their own set of terminal contacts extending substantially parallel from a first edge of said two planar walls for separately connecting each of said two planar walls to a power source;

(b) a unitary beam extending substantially continuously from one- a second end- edge thereof of each said two planar walls and in a direction substantially parallel to their respective planar wall and terminal contact and terminal contacts from another end thereof, said beams forming a projecting section engageable in a plug receiving space of a receptacle contact.